

[PATENT]

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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37 CFR 1.84(A)(2) Petition to Accept Color Photographs in a Utility Application

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.84(A)(2), the undersigned respectfully requests entry of the attached Color Photographs Figures 8A, 8B, and 8C for filing in the above captioned Utility Application filed herewith, for reasons set forth below.

COMMENT

The present application relates to a pressure gel indicator system and method therefore utilized in dentistry, particularly orthodontic procedures. The method of the present system entails the administration of a colored gel into a clear, custom formed dental tray (also referred to as an aligner), which is then mounted to the teeth of the patient and observed by the user. The teeth, receiving the dental tray with gel, displaces the gel so that, when the tray with gel is observed externally by the user, one can discern spacing between the teeth and the dental tray as dark areas, and areas of pressure wherein the teeth contact the dental tray as areas of lighter color.

While Figures 1-7 illustrate the system of the present invention, it is believed that color photographs as depicted in Figures 8A-8C better illustrate the color variation of the method of the present invention. Note particularly the circled area of Figure 8A, which shows a lightened area in the upper right quadrant, illustrating a area of pressure wherein the tooth is contacting the dental tray or aligner. Figure 8C illustrates the technique of utilizing the colored gel and dental tray or aligner to indicate spacing of a portion of the front teeth from the mouth tray/aligner in the form of a blue area, where the gel has not been displaced by the teeth.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that it is appropriate and desirable to allow the color photographs embodied in Figures 8A-8C in the present application filed concurrently therewith.

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-- The file of this patent contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent with color drawing(s) will be provided by the Patent and Trademark Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee. --.

Please find attached a check for \$130.00 under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

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Respectfully submitted,

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